United Nations A/C.2/61/L.1

General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Second Committee

Organization of work of the Second Committee

Note by the Secretariat

Allocation of items

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Second Committee will be listed in the letter from the President of the Assembly to the Chairman of the Second Committee (A/C.2/61/1). Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (A/61/100).

Programme of work

2. The draft programme of work (see annex) has been prepared bearing in mind paragraph (b) of rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements agreed upon by the Assembly at the outset of its current session (A/61/250) and the availability of documentation. The number of meetings suggested for the general discussion of the agenda items allocated to the Second Committee is based on past experience.

3. Pursuant to paragraph 4, subparagraphs (e) to (g) of section D of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the following items and sub-items have been allocated to the Second Committee: "Information and communication technologies for development"; "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions" (for annual consideration); "Towards global partnerships" (every other year); and "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: participation of volunteers, 'White Helmets', in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development" (every three years).

List of documents

4. Attention is drawn to the documents submitted under the various agenda items allocated to the Second Committee contained in the draft programme of work, which provides a full picture of the scope of the Committee's work programme. An

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addendum to the present document provides further information on the status of documentation before the Committee.

Length of statements

5. The Second Committee, in the past, decided to limit statements on all agenda items to 7 minutes and to limit statements during the general debate to 15 minutes.

Practices and working methods

6. The Second Committee, in implementing General Assembly resolution 58/316, in particular paragraphs 3 (c) and (d) of section C of the annex, shall utilize or expand the practice of interactive debates and introduce the practice of "question time".

Conference facilities and meetings arrangements

7. Taking into account the availability of conference services for the Main Committees of the General Assembly, an average of seven formal meetings a week have been scheduled for the Second Committee. Unless otherwise specified, meetings will be held at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. In this connection, the Assembly decided to remind delegations that punctuality is of the utmost importance in the interest of ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations. As decided by the Assembly, the requirement of the presence of at least one quarter of the members of the Committee to declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed has been waived.

Informal consultations

8. In view of the financial measures affecting conference services, and as indicated in the programme of work, some of the formal meetings allocated to the Second Committee will be utilized for informal consultations under the chairmanship of the Bureau members of the Committee so as to ensure full servicing of those consultations. In accordance with the established practice, informal consultations will be used for expressing general observations on the proposals and for adopting them ad referendum. All drafting will be done at the level of informal "informal" consultations (without interpretation or other services) and will be conducted by the appointed coordinators/facilitators.

Report of the Economic and Social Council

9. Pursuant to paragraph 4 (c) of section D of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council" should be considered in its entirety in plenary; however, it was clarified by the General Committee that the relevant parts of chapter I of the report that fall under agenda items already allocated to the Main Committees would be considered by the Committee concerned for final action by the General Assembly (see A/59/250/Add.1, para. 4).

Conclusion of the work of the Committee

10. Bearing in mind the number of meetings available to the Second Committee, it is proposed that the Committee set a target date of 1 December 2006 for the conclusion of its work.

Annex

Draft programme of work of the Second Committee

Item to be considered	*Documentation*
Week of 18-22 September	
Wednesday, 20 September	
10 a.m.	
Organization of work	
Week of 2-6 October	
Monday, 2 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	
General debate	
Tuesday, 3 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	
General debate (*continued*)	
Wednesday, 4 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	
General debate (*concluded*)	
Friday, 6 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (*side event*)	
Week of 9-13 October	
Monday, 9 October	
10 a.m.-noon (*side event*)	
12-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	
***Item 50*: Macroeconomic policy questions**	
(b) International financial system and development	Report of the Secretary-General on international financial system and development (A/61/136)
(c) External debt crisis and development	Report of the Secretary-General on recent developments in external debt (A/61/152)
(d) Commodities	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on world commodity trends and prospects (A/61/202)

Item to be considered	*Documentation*
Tuesday, 10 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	
***Item 51*: Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development**	Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development (A/61/253)
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item sub-items 50 (b)-(d)	
Wednesday, 11 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	
***Item 67*: Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance**[1]	
(b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions	Report of the Secretary-General on humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation for El Salvador and Guatemala (A/61/78-E/2006/61) Report of the Secretary-General on humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation for selected countries and regions (A/61/209)
(c) Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development	
3-5 p.m. and 5-6 p.m. (*side events*)	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 51	
Thursday, 12 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	

[1] Sub-items 67 (a), (d) and (e) are plenary items. Sub-items 67 (b) and (c) have been allocated to the Second Committee in accordance with subparagraphs 4 (e) and (g) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316.

Item to be considered	*Documentation*
***Item 49*: Information and communication technologies for development**	Report of the Secretary-General on information and communication technologies for development: progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 57/295 (A/61/254)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Policies of United Nations system organizations towards the use of open source software for development" (A/61/94)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system (A/61/165)
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under sub-items 67 (b) and (c)	
Friday, 13 October	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 49	
Week of 16-20 October	
Monday, 16 October	
Observance of World Food Day	
Tuesday, 17 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	
***Item 50*: Macroeconomic policy questions**	
(a) International trade and development	Report of the Secretary-General on international trade and development (A/61/272)
	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its thirty-eighth executive session (Supplement No. 15) (A/61/15 (Part I))
	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its thirty-eighth executive session (Supplement No. 15) (A/61/15 (Part II))
	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its thirty-eighth executive session (Supplement No. 15) (A/61/15 (Part III))

Item to be considered	*Documentation*
	Report of the Trade and Development Board on it thirty-eighth executive session (Supplement No. 15) (A/61/15 (Part IV))
Wednesday, 18 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	
Dialogue on globalization with the executive secretaries of the regional commissions	
3-5 p.m. (*side event*)	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under sub-item 50 (a)	
Thursday, 19 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	
***Item 54*: Globalization and interdependence**	
(a) Globalization and interdependence	Report of the Secretary-General on the role of innovation, science and technology in pursuing development in the context of globalization (A/61/286)
(b) International migration and development	Report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development (A/60/871)[2]
	Note by the President of the General Assembly transmitting the summary of informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector (A/61/187)[3]
(c) Culture and development	
(d) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption	Report of the Secretary-General on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin (A/61/177)

[2] Document issued with symbol denoting sixtieth session of the General Assembly since it was submitted during that session.

[3] For the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development.

Item to be considered	*Documentation*
(e) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy	Report of the Secretary-General on integration of the economies in transition into the world economy (A/61/269)
Friday, 20 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	
***Item 39*: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources**	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/61/67-E/2006/13)
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under sub-items 54 (a)-(e)	
Week of 23-27 October	
Monday, 23 October	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 39	
Tuesday, 24 October	
United Nations holiday	
Wednesday, 25 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	
***Item 52*: Sustainable development**	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports of the secretaries of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the UNCCD and the UNCBD (A/61/225)
(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (A/61/258)

Item to be considered	*Documentation*
(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	Report of the Secretary-General on the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/61/277) Report of the Secretary-General on promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development (A/61/268)
(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction	Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/61/229)
(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (A/61/225)
(f) Convention on Biological Diversity	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/61/225)
(g) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its ninth special session	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its ninth special session (Supplement No. 25) (A/61/25) Report of the Secretary-General on universal membership of the Governing Council/Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme (A/61/322)
Thursday, 26 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	
***Item 52*: Sustainable development and sub-items 52 (a)-(d), (f)-(g)** (*continued*)	
3-6 p.m.	
***Item 53*: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)**	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (Supplement No. 8) (A/61/8) Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (A/61/262)

Item to be considered	*Documentation*
Friday, 27 October	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 53	
Week of 30 October-3 November	
Monday, 30 October	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	
***Item 52*: Sustainable development**	
(c) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (A/61/225)
3-5 p.m. (*side event*)	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under sub-items 52 (a)-(g)	
Wednesday, 1 November	
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (*side event*)	
Thursday, 2 November	
10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	
***Item 57*: Operational activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system**	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of UNDP on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/61/292) Report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive statistical data on operational activities for development for 2004 (A/61/77-E/2006/59)
Friday, 3 November	
3-6 p.m.	
Informal consultations	
Action on draft proposals under items 39, 49, sub-items 50 (b)-(d), item 51, item 53, sub-items 54 (a)-(e), and sub-items 67 (b) and (c)	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 57	

Item to be considered	*Documentation*
Week of 6-10 November	
Wednesday, 8 November	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	
***Item 55*: Groups of countries in special situations**	
(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (A/61/82-E/2006/74 and Corr.1)[4] Report of the Secretary-General for the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010[4] Note by the President of the General Assembly transmitting the summary of the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector (A/61/162)
(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation	Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action (A/61/302)
Thursday, 9 November	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under sub-items 55 (a) and (b)	
Friday, 10 November	
10-11.30 a.m. (*side event*)	
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	

[4] For the high-level meeting on the comprehensive global midterm review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010.

Item to be considered	*Documentation*
***Item 56*: Eradication of poverty and other development issues**	
(a) Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)	Report of the Secretary-General on the observance of the International Year of Microcredit, 2005 (A/61/307) Report of the Secretary-General on the observance of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (A/61/308)
(b) Industrial development cooperation	Report of the Secretary-General on industrial development cooperation (A/61/305)
Week of 13-17 November	
Monday, 13 November	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under sub-items 56 (a) and (b)	
Tuesday, 14 November	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	
***Item 58*: Training and research**	
(a) United Nations University	Report of the Council of the United Nations University (Supplement No. 31) (A/61/31)
(b) United Nations Institute for Training and Research	Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (Supplement No. 14) (A/61/14)
Wednesday, 15 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
2006 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities	
2006 United Nations/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Pledging Conference for the World Food Programme	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under sub-items 58 (a) and (b)	

Item to be considered	*Documentation*
Friday, 17 November	
3-6 p.m.	
Informal consultations	
Action on draft proposals under sub-items 50 (a), 52 (a)-(g), 55 (a) and (b), and item 57	
Week of 27 November-1 December	
Thursday, 30 November	
3-6 p.m.	
Informal consultations	
Action on all outstanding proposals	
Friday, 1 December	
3-6 p.m.	
Informal consultations	
Action on all outstanding proposals	
Conclusion of the work of the Second Committee	

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